

MONDAY MORNING, 19 JUNE 1967

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER - 18 JUNE 1967 P-2 (19)

CHICAGO TRIBUNE
19 JUNE 1967 P-3**CHINESE ICBM
ISN'T FAR OFF,
ANALYSTS SAY****Dispute Estimate
of McNamara**

HONG KONG, June 18 (UPI)—Intelligence analysts said today that Red China will have a missile capable of firing its hydrogen bomb into South Viet Nam, Japan, or Thailand by the end of the year.

The intelligence sources said they expected the Chinese to pose a nuclear missile threat to the United States well before the 1970-1975 period predicted by Robert S. McNamara, secretary of defense.

The Chinese announced yesterday they had set off their first hydrogen bomb.

Boasts of "Miracles"

"Our country is already in possession of an atomic bomb, missile, and hydrogen bomb, and we can create many miracles," the Chinese boasted in a radio broadcast after the successful explosion.

Intelligence sources in this listening post told UPI a week before the test that the Chinese were getting ready for a new explosion. They said the new bomb might be carried in a missile, like the last of China's five previous tests, on Dec. 28.

The Chinese announcement said the hydrogen bomb "was detonated in the air" but did not say whether it was carried by a plane, a missile, or fired from a tower.

Analysts here said the Chinese already seem to have a missile with a range of 500 to 800 miles. By the end of the year, they expect Peking to perfect a missile with a range of 800 to 1,500 miles.

The missile would put many Asian nations within easy reach of China.

Condemns Bomb Test

Officials in Japan and India today condemned the Chinese hydrogen test. Both countries are within range of China's potential missile force.

Mrs. Indira Gandhi, prime minister of India, said the explosion was "a matter of anxiety. Communist China has continued to defy world opinion."

**2 Years of Bombing
Fail to Drown Out
Questions on B-52s**

By GEORGE ESPER

SAIGON, June 17 (AP).—Two years ago Sunday, 30 of the Strategic Air Command's B-52 jet bombers took off from Guam on a historic mission.

Their target, 2400 miles away, was a suspected Vietcong concentration and storage area 30 miles north of Saigon in the jungles of War Zone D, a Communist stronghold.

Two of the \$8 million, eight-engine Stratofortresses collided and crashed at sea, killing eight crewmen. One of the others had to turn back en route. One that completed the flight had a malfunction preventing release of its bombs.

NO MORE LOST

But the rest unloaded 300 tons of explosives on the Vietcong positions, thus marking their first entry into a war. In this and scores of missions since, none has been lost to hostile action.

The big jets originally had been produced in the early 1950s to carry hydrogen bombs in case of global nuclear war. They have a range of 12,500 miles. They fly at 650 miles an hour, pinpoint targets with electronic techniques.

Since the first raid two years ago, B-52 pilots have logged 11,000 sorties—single combat flights—and unloaded 680,000 bombs totaling more than 200,000 tons of explosives. Their strikes have ranged from just outside Saigon to the demilitarized zone and some targets in North Vietnam.

4 MISSIONS A DAY

In recent months, they have been flying an average of four bombing missions a day. Some are operating now out of Thailand, a hop of only 500 miles or less into Vietnam.

Shortly after the giant bombers entered the war, there was some skepticism about their effectiveness. Civilian critics said the B-52s were not inflicting casualties on Communist troops.

The number of casualties like-

ly will never be known. Often areas that are bombed by the B-52s are not entered by ground troops. On several occasions, newsmen who accompanied troops on a sweep of an area that has been raided found no evidence of mass enemy casualties—perhaps a few dead at most.

Instead there was a mass of giant craters that—in the words of Gen. Earle C. Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff—"rearrange the landscape."

RAIDS QUESTIONED

Questions have been raised about whether the B-52 raids are worth the money spent on them. Sen. Vance Hartke (D., Ind.), said recently that flying a B-52 from Guam costs \$1300 an hour, and it's a 10-hour roundtrip. Each carries up to 30 tons of bombs. According to Hartke, a member of the Senate Finance and Commerce Committees, bombs on the average cost \$1 a pound.

Military commanders, however, say the strikes are producing results.

Gen. John P. McConnell, Air Force Chief of Staff, once said the strikes were disrupting operations of the Vietcong by keeping them on the move and denying them a sanctuary.

Gen. William C. Westmoreland, commander of U.S. forces in Vietnam, has said, "Since the bombings began, the number of Vietcong defectors has multiplied many fold."

RAIDS 'WORRY' REDS

Defectors say the raids have a tremendous psychological effect. They have told military interrogators the big bombers are wrecking Vietcong rest areas and hospitals, tunnels and caves and destroying food caches. Flying at altitudes of 40,000 feet or higher, the bombers cannot be heard from the ground, and it is impossible for the Communists to know they are under attack until the bombs go off.

India fought one brief war with China in the last five years. Its government is under pressure to develop its own bomb in defense against China. It has been reluctant to sign a nuclear nonproliferation treaty which would forbid it to develop such weapons.

March Thru Peking

PEKING, June 18 [Reuters]—Excited Chinese marched thru Peking in massive triumphal parades today to celebrate the explosion of China's first

hydrogen bomb.

The capital became a riot of color and noise with marchers bearing red banners, multi-colored flags, and color portraits of Communist party Chairman Mao Tse-tung garlanded with red flowers.

Each procession was accompanied by groups pounding drums, clashing cymbals, and beating gongs as they converged on party headquarters to present messages of congratulations.

WASHINGTON POST

17 JUNE 1967 P-4 (19)

Nationalist Chinese**Due to Make M-14 Rifle**

United Press International

Nationalist China is expected to begin manufacturing the M14 Rifle—still a mainstay of the U.S. Army—for Chinese troops on Taiwan, reliable sources said yesterday.

The project, being worked out between the U.S. and Nationalist Chinese governments, would be a significant new step in American arms aid policy.

Officials could recall no case in recent years of a foreign country being licensed to make a strictly American rifle still being used by U.S. forces. No M14s have been manufactured in the United States since 1964.

U.S. military commanders consider the M-14 better for longer range fighting conditions in Europe, but they believe the new and controversial M-16 best for the close range, quick reaction jungle warfare.

Several factors could be involved in Nationalist China's choice of the M-14. The M-14 is probably easier to make, and the United States is still getting the bugs out of the M-16. The M-14 is a U.S. Army-developed weapon, to which the U.S. Government has title. The M-16 patent is held by Colt's Industries, Inc. China also could purchase ammunition for the M-14 from NATO countries.

WASHINGTON POST

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**New Bomb Pause
Seen Weighed**By Joseph Fried
New York Daily News Service

SAIGON, June 16 — The White House is reportedly considering another pause in the bombing over North Vietnam before officially committing more troops to the Vietnam war, informed sources said here tonight.

Sources said Washington is weighing another bomb pause long enough to satisfy opponents of the war who rapped President Johnson's two-day bomb halt after the Buddhist New Year cease-fire as insufficient, but nowhere near the 37-day respite of December, 1965, which aroused those who are firmly behind the war.

Failure of Hanoi to respond to the new pause would result in Mr. Johnson's announcing he has no alternative but to send additional troops. Both Premier Nguyen Cao Ky and the U.S. Commander, Gen. William C. Westmoreland, want a total of 800,000—or an increase of 137,000.